Community Based Instruction (CBI)

Community Based Instruction encompasses four areas:

- Functional Academics
- Vocational Training
- Daily Living Skills
- Recreation/Leisure Skills

The purpose of Community Based Instruction is to provide the students with Moderate, Severe or Profound Intellectual Disabilities an opportunity to practice the knowledge and the skills learned in the classroom in the real world. For example, in the classroom, students learn how to recognize the various values of money; and how to add, subtract, and count money (Functional Academics). They learn to recognize peanut butter in different containers; to recognize crackers in various types of boxes; and the mechanics of making a snack (Daily Living Skills). They use their Daily Living Skills by going to a grocery store; finding and selecting peanut butter; finding and selecting crackers; and taking the items to the cash register. They put their Functional Academic knowledge into practice by paying for their items; and waiting for change. They use their Daily Living Skills again by actually making peanut butter crackers when they return to the classroom.

Vocational Training in the elementary grades involves teaching the students to sort items by shape, color, texture, or some other quality; disassemble items; assemble items; and/or make kits from various related items. Middle school Vocational Training is conducted on campus. The students are taught to perform various "jobs" around school. The students, with adult supervision, can be given the task of collecting paper for recycling; collecting attendance sheets for the office; washing athletic uniforms; and/or managing the athletic equipment room. The list of possible "jobs" is almost endless. Once in high school, the students go to various businesses in the county, and apply the vocational skills they have learned.

Exposing the student to the various recreational opportunities in the CSRA develops the student's Recreation/Leisure Skills.

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High School CBI Manual
Elementary & Middle School CBI Manual